

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Patrick Swan, CIO/G-6
Phone: 703-693-3069
Email: Patrick.Swan@us.army.mil

DoD BMO Partners with West Virginia University on Biometrics and Information Assurance Programs

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 20, 2002-The Department of Defense (DoD) Biometrics Management Office is working with West Virginia University (WVU) to educate government and IT industry personnel about biometrics and information assurance. This joint venture has resulted in the development of a 5-Day Short Course, "Concept in Biometrics Systems and Information Assurance," and a graduate certificate program, "Information Assurance and Biometrics."

"We are very excited about this venture," said Dr. Linda Dean, director of the Army's C4 (Command, Control, Communications, and Computers) Enabling Technologies Directorate and the DoD Biometrics Management Office. "Biometrics is quickly becoming a security requirement among many Defense Agencies and commercial organizations. As a result, there is and will continue to be a need for professionals in the biometrics field. We want to take an aggressive role in satisfying this need, especially for DoD."

The 5-Day Short Course introduces students to concepts in information assurance, biometrics, testing methodologies, standards and socio-legal implications. This course is offered on the campus of WVU and off campus for groups of 10 – 20 participants. The BMO is offering 4 courses annually at no cost to interested DoD personnel. The next BMO sponsored 5-day short course is scheduled for July 8-12 at the Defense Information Systems Agency office in Falls Church, Virginia. Agencies can contract directly with WVU to bring the course to their site.

The graduate certificate program, scheduled to begin this fall, is an accredited 15-credit hour course curriculum. The program's core courses include an introduction to biometric systems, information assurance and computer security, advanced biometrics and forensic statistics. This program is only offered on the campus of WVU.



DoD BMO Partners with WVU on Biometrics and IA Programs Page 2 of 2

For DoD personnel interested in participating in the July 5-day short course, a request for consideration must be sent to Mr. Keith Weir by June 14 at keith.weir@us.army.mil. The request must include the prospective student's name, unit or Agency, telephone number and email address.

For more information about upcoming 5-day short courses and the graduate certificate program, or to arrange for off-site courses, please visit www.c3i.osd.mil/biometrics or contact Mr. Weir at keith.weir@us.army.mil.

###

The Department of Defense Biometrics Management Office is the central entity within the DoD responsible for leading, consolidating and coordinating the development, adoption and institutionalization of biometric technologies in CINCs, Services and Agencies, to enhance Joint Service interoperability and warfighter operational effectiveness.

